



THE POTRERO VIEW



November 1, 1971

284 Connecticut Street

626-8675

FREE

Vol. 2, No. 11



Louis Dunn

Vote YES on 'T'

For why, see page 2.

Proposition 'A' excludes Hill schools

Neither Daniel Webster nor I. M. Scott Schools are among the 32 schools slated to be brought up to Field Act standards if voters approve Proposition "A."

According to John Queiser, administrative assistant in charge of the Earthquake Safety Information Center, both schools are among 19 which the Board of Education has yet to decide whether to close or rebuild.

Queiser cited the two criteria used by the Board in deciding which schools to include in Proposition "A," the character and degree of the earthquake hazard and projected needs through 1975.

Both schools failed to (Continued on back page.)

Free food

Ruth Wellington, who heads Potrero Hill's supplemental food program, announced that she expects to be able to distribute food from the program this month.

The program has been bogged down in red tape since June, the last month food was distributed to some 700 mothers and children on the Hill.

Olivet fire repairs to cost at least \$35,000

The reconstruction of Olivet Presbyterian Church is expected to cost approximately \$35,000, according to the Meyer Construction Company.

Meyer has been completing the cleanup operation at the church which barely escaped total destruction in an arson fire two weeks ago.

The structure is owned by the Presbytery of San Francisco and was insured against fire. The greatest share of rebuilding costs will probably be paid for by the insurance company.

Members of the congregation have expressed fear that the Presbytery may decide to demolish the building and have gone ahead with plans to raise the funds necessary for rebuilding locally.

An arts and crafts bazaar will run for three week-ends, beginning Saturday, November 20, with proceeds going to the building fund.

The building needs considerable work on both exterior and interior, including new roof, ceiling, windows, flooring and paint.

According to the fire investigators report, the blaze was started in the early morning of Thursday, October 14. A "flammable liquid gave the fire a good start," the report stated. Investigator Ernest Capper reported there were no arson suspects as of October 31.

The two alarm blaze (Continued on back page.)

Citizen response sought to city transportation plan

The Department of City Planning released its report on the city's transportation needs, "Improvement Plan for Transportation," last month.

The report outlines needed improvements in streets, thoroughfares, and the public mass transit system. It was prepared in consultation with the Municipal Railway and the Department of Public Works.

It is presented as a proposal for citizen review and is subject to changes and revisions to correspond with expressed concerns.

The Department's staff will be available, on request, to meet with community groups for the next several months.

No questions allowed

Candidates talk at Hill residents

The Boosters' sponsored Candidates Night was, in the words of one apparently satisfied spectator, "a time to meet the candidates, not discuss the issues."

The event at the Junior High School took place only two weeks before the election, and represented many residents' only chance for any contact at all with most of the candidates.

Although the meeting was sponsored and chaired by the Boosters and Merchants Association, the audience was extremely diversified. All the ingredients of a good forum were present, but chances for any real interchange seemed doomed when Chairman Charles Peterson announced, after the first speaker, that there would be no further questions directed to any of the candidates or proposition backers.

The speaker for Proposition P used half of his allotted time for questions; Peterson's ubiquitous timer rang after all questions from the audience had been posed, and at that time Peterson stated "There will be no more questions addressed to the speakers. We don't have time for this kind of rapport."

The result was another kind of "rapport" in a disorderly and fairly unconstructive meeting. By cutting off questions, Peterson invited heckling from and among all factions in the audience. As the meeting wore on, several candidates disregarded the ruling from the chair, but the atmosphere was of disorganization bordering on chaos.

The issue of the stop sign at 18th and Connecticut Streets, which the residents put up and the city subsequently took down, was brought up several (Continued on back page.)

Boycott school ousted

Following a heated discussion, the Board of Directors of the Neighborhood House voted to expel the local boycott school on November 30.

Previously the Executive Committee of the Board had agreed to allow the Patrick Henry Parents Against School Board Busing to occupy space for 30 students in the House until December 31.

Charges were made by several Board members that the boycott group was basically racist in its establishment of a boycott school.

Others maintained that the House should be available to Hill groups of all persuasions.

In other Board business the Personnel Committee was directed to interview at least three candidates in its pursuit of an executive director for the House.

The basic recommendations for the merger of the Neighborhood House and six other centers under the Golden Gate Neighborhood Centers Association were approved. Under the provisions all funds allocated to the House by the United Bay Area Crusade would be distributed by GGNCA.

The Neighborhood House has been associated with the GGNCA for several years in a loose organization. The new plan provides for more central distribution of funds, volume purchasing, and advice and consent on personnel matters.

A mass appeal for funds from the residents and businesses on the Hill is being planned. UBAC's contribution only covers about half of the expenses of the House and the Presbyterian Church's support has been reduced in the past two years.

The Neighborhood House was to receive \$100 per month in rent from the boycott school. The Social Development Center (see story, page 6) which opened in October is expected to more than make up the loss.

THE POTRERO VIEW

is published monthly by
THE POTRERO HILL MOB,
a non-profit organization.

Staff: Lenny Anderson, Pat Cleaver, Janet Cox, Bill Dawson, Louis Dunn, Sally Evans, Ginny March, Ruth Passen, Sally Sanders, Jennifer Stamm, David Edwards-Van Norden, Danny Werner and Julian Wurm.

Editorial and policy decisions are made collectively by the staff. Membership is open to any Hill resident willing to work. All staff positions are voluntary.

THE POTRERO VIEW is printed at Garrett Press, a union shop.

Winner of the Mission Citizens Council's Robert Krauskopf Award for Excellence in Journalism for 1971.

How we see it

Whose paper?

The Mob

Newspapers are usually owned by one guy and he calls the editorial shots or has someone of his choosing do it. Sometimes there's a board of directors.

These are profit-making operations, enjoying, in the case of San Francisco, monopoly status. Ads are sold on the basis of readership.

THE POTRERO VIEW is unique among newspapers. No one person owns THE VIEW or controls its editorial policy. The staff, which in a moment of reckless youth decided to call itself The Potrero Hill Mob, makes editorial decisions collectively as well as putting THE VIEW together.

Whenever an individual writes a "column", it bears his/her name, and we believe that a staff member who takes responsibility for what he/she says, may say whatever he/she pleases.

Finally, no one is getting a salary from THE VIEW, let alone getting rich. Our income, which comes primarily from Hill subscribers and advertisers, fails to make our production costs.

Membership in the "Mob" is open to any Hill resident who wants to report the news to his/her neighbors on a regular basis.

Short of that we urge all Hill residents to help keep THE VIEW afloat by sending in at least two dollars for a subscription and by urging your local merchant to buy an ad or commending those who have.

VIEW suggests

Yes On "T"

More Mob

THE POTRERO VIEW staff urges Potrero Hill to vote YES on PROPOSITION T.

We think it is probably the last chance for the people of this city, those who live here, to preserve the livability of San Francisco. More important it is a real opportunity for the people, the simple majority of citizens to chart a new direction for their city.

The political screen-throwing and the vast financial resources of opponents of Proposition T have effectively kept the real issues from the citizens of San Francisco.

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce (we wonder how many of its members live in San Francisco?) has created a paper organization, Citizens for San Francisco, to disseminate misinformation in cute full page ads ("Oh Alvin, you're the limit.")

Despite their efforts, it is a real challenge to find a voter outside construction and real estate companies who will tell you that what this city needs is more tall buildings. Anyone who saw the downtown skyline even seven or eight years ago has to admit that SOMETHING seems to be lost forever. And the escalation in highrise construction in the last four years-- coincidental, perhaps, with the term of Mayor Joseph Alioto-- has been the most significant of all.

As supporters of Proposition T, we feel that something has to be done immediately, before more permits are granted and more Transamerica Pyramids are contracted.

We consider Proposition T a moratorium on high-rise construction, halting things until the supervisors, the Planning Commission and the people can come to the optimal solution.

The beneficial effects of Proposition T are two: 1) to give the city the time it needs to solve the problem and 2) to insure the participation of all San Franciscans-- those concerned with aesthetic values, as well as financial gain-- in the solution.

In the grand tradition of the Freeway Revolt, let's usher in the Highrise Revolt, and take control of our city out of the hands of the wealthy few.

Other recommendations:

Proposition A - Yes
Proposition B - Yes
Proposition C - No
Proposition D - Yes
Proposition I - Yes
Proposition J - No

Proposition K - No
Proposition M - No
Proposition N - Yes
Proposition O - Yes
Proposition Q - Yes
Proposition S - Yes



Reggie Wong



Put back the signs!

18th and Connecticut Streets has always been a bad corner for accidents, but City Hall has never responded to requests for stop signs at this corner.

A few weeks ago, a group of Hill residents took matters into their own hands, put up regulation size home-made stop signs, painted STOP on the street, and cars began stopping at this corner.

Within only a few days, workmen from the Department of Public Works appeared to remove the signs and to paint over the streets. When asked

the reason, a workman replied, "Well, what if everyone all over town put up their own STOP signs?"

In view of the city government's seeming lack of concern for our neighborhood's needs, we don't think this would be such a bad idea!

It seems absurd to us that the city removed such well-made, regulation size signs, which were obviously doing the job. We think the only satisfactory conclusion to this tale is the return of the STOP to 18th and Connecticut Streets.

Letters to the VIEW

Jr hi parents' club

Editor:

To Parents of Children Attending Potrero Hill Junior High School and To All Those Who Truly Care About Them:

On Wednesday, November 10, 1971, at 7:30 p.m. there will be a meeting-- the third one held already this school term (that I know about) regarding the establishment of a parents' club at the Potrero Junior High School.

Please make a heavy effort to be present regardless of your personal fatigue and frustrations of that day. I dragged into the second meeting and much to my dismay honestly believe the meeting had been caucused and that much of the policy had already been decided, officers selected, committees formed, and I don't know what else has gone down under the auspices of a power hungry group of people who have no children in the school.

Unfortunately, I let the children down when I left in a huff when my own sense of fairness became involved because of the undemocratic manner in which the

meeting was handled, including hand votes by persons who obviously had no right to be voting, nominations of a certain party without children in the school and the general apathy and attitudes extended, namely power plays on the part of some people present there.

Please come out for the next meeting and don't let our children get the short end.

The school is new and exciting and has great potential for the welfare of the youngsters if a certain group is not permitted to take it over and exercise control.

Margaret J. Kempf

Immigrants'

Editor:

Your misleading article on the meeting of the Mental Health Board which established the requirements for candidates to the Board is another indication of your biased and inefficient reporting.

The most glaring error in your coverage was informing the reader that "immigrants" would be excluded from the Board. This is a total falsehood. Anyone who would care to

check the minutes of the meeting would see that any "immigrant" (defined as one who applies for citizenship) would be open to candidacy if he were a voter and a resident of the area.

I'm sorry to see that you choose to twist the reporting of news as you do. When people today need straight information you choose to present a biased and distorted view of the news.

This is your second twisted article on the Mental Health Board; and I wonder what your continuing articles will falsify.

Thank you,

Frank A. Crotty

Mr. Crotty:

You infer incorrectly from our October article on the Mission Mental Health interim advisory board when you charge us with "informing the reader that 'immigrants' would be excluded from the Board." Board members made that charge; we only reported it.

The question of citizenship is largely semantic, for a person must be a citizen in order to register to vote. To become a citizen one must be a (Continued on page 3.)



Potrero View Park

Students from St. Teresa's and Starr King Schools test the play equipment at the new mini-park at 22nd and Connecticut Streets while waiting for

Mayor Alioto. The Mayor "dedicated" three such parks that day, taking the occasion to point to the achievements of his administration.

Calendar of Hill Events

NOVEMBER 1, Monday
Community Action Committee meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the Neighborhood House, 953 DeHaro St.

NOVEMBER 2, Tuesday
Election Day. Go to the polls and VOTE.

NOVEMBER 5, Friday
Olivet Church services, 7:30 p.m. at the church, 400 Missouri St.

NOVEMBER 6, Saturday
St. Teresa's Religious Education classes for public school children, at the school, 19th and Connecticut Sts.

NOVEMBER 7, Sunday
Olivet Church services, 7:30 p.m. at the church, 400 Missouri St.

NOVEMBER 8, Monday
Citizens Improvement Association meeting, 7:30 p.m., in the all-purpose room at Starr King School, 1215 Carolina St.

NOVEMBER 11, Thursday
St. Teresa's parish

community meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the church hall, 19th & Connecticut Streets.

NOVEMBER 12, Friday
Olivet Church dinner meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church, 400 Missouri St.

NOVEMBER 15, Monday
Community Action Committee meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the Neighborhood House, 953 DeHaro St.

NOVEMBER 17, Wednesday
Police Relations Committee meeting, 8 p.m. at the Potrero Hill Library, 1616 20th St.

NOVEMBER 18, Thursday
Patrick Henry School Parent Faculty Group meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the school auditorium, 693 Vermont St.

NOVEMBER 20, Saturday
St. Teresa's Religious Education classes for public school children, at the school, 19th & Connecticut Streets.

Olivet Church Bazaar, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the

church, 400 Missouri St. Arts and crafts will be sold to raise money to rebuild the church. Entertainment.

NOVEMBER 21, Sunday
Olivet Bazaar, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. See above.

NOVEMBER 22, Monday
Citizens Improvement Association meeting, 7:30 p.m. in all-purpose room at Starr King School, 1215 Carolina St.

NOVEMBER 24, Wednesday
Potrero Hill Residents and Homeowners Council meeting 8 p.m. at the Neighborhood House, 953 DeHaro St.

NOVEMBER 26, Friday
Olivet Church dinner meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church, 400 Missouri St.

NOVEMBER 27, Saturday
Olivet Church Bazaar, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the church, 400 Missouri St. Arts and crafts will be sold to raise money to rebuild the church. Entertainment.

NOVEMBER 28, Sunday
Olivet Bazaar, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. See above.

NOVEMBER 29, Monday
Booster and Merchants Association meeting, 8 p.m. at the library, 1616 20th St.

WEEKLY OLIVET
Friday evening services at 7:30 p.m.
Potrero Hill Health Project meeting, Thursdays at 6 p.m.

Food Buying Club, Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For details call 863-5558

BROTHERHOOD
The Brotherhood meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in their office, 991 Wisconsin St.



Hills and Dales

Bill's ballot

Bill Dawson

To say that we need change is self-evident. Since so many things have happened in this city in the last few years gauged at keeping the big businesses in operation and squeezing the small man out, it has to change.

I have seldom thought that I would ever be impressed by a woman running for a political office, and being a standard male, have tended to sidetrack her ambitions in this field.

This year, however, I have changed my mind.

Two woman candidates have impressed me with their knowledge in the roles to which they hope to gain prominence. The first, of course, is Dianne Feinstein, who is giving our present mayor Alioto a pretty good run for his money (and he has a lot of it) by her end-of-campaign surge (which Las Vegas rates as 5 to Alioto's 6).

She is poised, articulate, informed, and dedicated--four qualities in my estimation absolutely necessary to the office she hopes to hold.

The other woman candidate for office that most impressed me was Yvonne Westbrook, the 18-year-old candidate to the Board of Supervisors whose intelligence far exceeds her years. She has the sincerity of her youth, and the ability to communicate with the younger populace which has caused them to view the city politics as completely against its cause (which in most cases is true).

She most impressed me with a statement she made at a recent meeting when asked whom she considered her people. (She had made reference to her people in her speech.) She said, "San Franciscans are my people. I represent the youth, because I am 18; women, because I am a woman; the black people, because I am black.

No one in the audience could argue with her point which was made quite expertly.

Of the men candidates, I was most impressed by 3--- 1) Quentin Kopp, candidate for supervisor, whose knowledge of the city and its charter was quite impressive; 2) Noah Griffin, Jr., candidate for the Board of Supervisors, who seemed sincere in his efforts, and non-spoiled by an pre-conceived notions, and 3) Richard Honigisto, candidate for sheriff, whose expertise in his field was very evident in all his speeches.

More letters

(Continued from page 2.) resident for FIVE YEARS, pass a test on the Constitution, and swear before a judge his loyalty to the United States.

By requiring Board members to be registered voters, you exclude everyone who has not met the above requirements, i.e. "recent immigrants." The Staff

Sign stopped

Editor:

Quentin Kopp deserves the thanks of Potrero Hill residents for his assistance in our efforts to get stop signs at the corner of 18th and Connecticut Streets.

For five days an unofficial stop sign put up at this intersection did slow traffic, making it easier and safer for school children to cross the street. The day after that sign was removed, Quentin Kopp stood on the corner making an on-the-spot check of the situation. This is action, not rhetoric. He has demonstrated that he is interested in neighborhood problems and in the complaints of the little guy who gets the run-around at City Hall.

Having worked on the committee to revise and simplify the City Charter, Mr. Kopp knows what our elected officials are expected to accomplish with the taxes we pay. If the job is not getting done, he wants to hear about it. On the Board of Supervisors, he would be in a position to see that our taxes are well spent.

Whether or not we get our traffic sign, Quentin Kopp deserves your support on election day.

Al and Betsey Glenn

Athletics

Editor:

All San Francisco Junior High School after-school athlete programs have been eliminated from this year's budget by the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Thomas A. Shaheen and his staff.

Physical educators call on your support as parents and as a concerned community in helping to restore this extremely worthwhile program. You can help bring back basketball, baseball, soccer and track by contacting Board of Education members, Dr. Thomas Shaheen, Mayor Alioto, members of the Board of Supervisors, or any other influential individuals or groups and letting your feelings be known. The Junior High boys want the program. Let's get it back for them.

Thank you.

Jeff Thollander
Marc Christensen,
P.E. Staff, Potrero Hill Junior High

Good results

Editor:

In addition to enjoying reading the VIEW, I want you to know how pleased I am with the results of the classified ads I have placed.

Last month I advertised for a daytime sitter for my seven year old child. I was deluged by responses from both teenagers and adults, and, as a result, I have been able to make daytime arrangements as well as adding to my evenings-out sitter list.

The VIEW really provides a community service as well as being fun to read. Thanks very much.

Sincerely,
Marylouise Lovett

Free Want ads Free

WANTED: secretary for 12 hours work. Type 70 wpm, transcribe. 18th and Rhode Island. 647-2982.
YOUNG couple wants apt/flat/hse on Hill. 282-7143. Tommie or Daryl.
GREEN thumb will love and care for your garden. Yard work. Call Jenny, 626-8675.
GUITAR- Martin 00-18. Unusually good tone. \$250,

Call 863-0267.
CARE for children in my home. Cuido niños en mi casa. 431-4360.
TWO FREE KITTENS, save them from SPCA. Call: 647-3563.
WANTED: 3-bedroom house to rent. Call: 647-3563.
PAINTING (semi or private) LESSONS in artists' studio, \$3 per hour. Call after 7 p.m. 863-0267.

Write your own classified ad

And send to:

THE POTRERO VIEW
284 Connecticut
San Francisco 94107

Phone
626-8675

Rates: as a community service THE POTRERO VIEW will provide up to four lines of classified ad space FREE.

Deadline: By November 25 for December 1 (Print words, leaving one space between words.)

CULTURE



Conversation at 22nd and DeHaro Streets.

Leafing through
"Hilltop Russians"
Ruth Passen

The Potrero Hill Library, 1010 20th Street, has recently acquired a book that few, if indeed any, residents of the Hill have known existed.

Entitled "Hilltop Russians in San Francisco", this slim volume of 30 color illustrations by Pauline Vinson, with text by William Saroyan, captures a time and place that hardly seems believable 30 years after publication.

In Saroyan's words, "Potrero Hilltop is more than a vantage point for sweeping vistas. It is the home of a Russian group whose independent ways of life in the midst of San Francisco have survived intact. The wonder of discovering such survival is affectionately expressed in this book which will keep alive a community that in itself may not survive."

These people were originally Volga peasants who migrated to the Caucasus to "escape the persecution of the Orthodox Imperial Regimes." They set up their own religious formula, left their mother country and emigrated to America.

The first Russian settlers came to San Francisco in 1904, and the Molokan colony established itself on Potrero Hill. "Deeply religious, but protestant and puritanical, the first of these pilgrims reached San Francisco when the city had climbed only part way up the Hill," writes Miss Vinson.

Besides the Molokani, some of the Russians on Potrero Hill go by the name of Prigouni. There are also a number of Russian Baptists. However, the Molokan colony seems to have been the largest on the Hill.

Saroyan's few introductory lines add to the whimsy and charm of the artists' sketches, which depict the life and style of this patriarchal ethnic group.

It's difficult to believe that such a quaint, introverted group might still be in existence today. As if to negate Saroyan's impressions, the Molokan colony continues to reside on the Hill, but few of the colorful babushka-headed ladies are to be found strolling on the streets or sitting in front of their houses on warm days, as is so delightfully illustrated in the book.

500 copies of this book were printed in 1941 by Grabhorn Press. Today, there is one copy in our branch library, and one copy in the downtown main library.

Rudolph Schaeffer
School of Design

COLOR • DESIGN • INTERIOR

2255 Mariposa St., San Francisco

Grassroot Experience

Bringing Black theater home

"White people can go anywhere in San Francisco and see themselves portrayed in almost any type of theatrical setting. Black people have not had this kind of theatre experience. There is a need for black theatre in the community, and we are giving our audiences what they haven't been able to have before," said John Henry Doyle, founder and director of Grassroot Experience Theatre, which enters its second season November 5th with three one-act plays at the Julian Theatre 953 DeHaro Street.

Former football player Doyle and the Grassroot's other director, Vern Henderson, have found that there is a growing need and demand for black theatre in the outer communities of the city. Grassroot Experience Theatre began more than a year and a half ago with the help of the Julian Theatre. This season it will be additionally aided with a \$900 slice of the hotel-tax cultural allotment. The two theatre groups share the same building space; however they are separate entities, having to rely on their own fund-raising endeavors.

Based in part on his own experience in the drama department at college, Doyle feels that a black actor portraying white characters is difficult to relate to. Another problem is that black audiences often have difficulty relating to most performed plays - by, about and performed by whites.

"We play characters that black people can identify with; preachers, athletes, buffoons, street people, these they can re-

Mann in "Nest"

Winifred Mann, Potrero Hill resident, will appear as Nurse Ratched in Ken Kesey's "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," at the Little Fox Theatre, 533 Pacific Ave., San Francisco.

Ms. Mann steps into this leading role for a three week period only, November 9-28, and then will appear in three productions of the new A. C. T. season.

A profile of Ms. Mann appeared in the April, 1971 issue of the VIEW.

Children's play

"The Rocky Mountain Wizard," who has magical powers to dispel evil and make all things right, will be performed for children and adults by the newly-formed Misty Mountain Players this month at the Julian Theatre in the Neighborhood House.

The play, by Dennis Latham, which has been touring schools and other communities this fall, will be played at 2 p.m. on Saturday afternoons, Nov. 20 and 27, and at 2 and 7:30 p.m. on Sundays, Nov. 21 and 28. It is directed by Steven Lambert, and features Potrero Hill actress Gail Baxter as the witch. Admission is \$1 for children, \$2 for adults at the door.

late to or laugh at, and they are characters the people know," Doyle said.

"Black people are usually energetic when they do things, whether its dance, sports or anything else. I think it's that, the energy in our plays, that black people can relate to. They're seeing themselves for the first time, in real situations, in neighborhoods close to home."

Doyle described how he has found that black theatre is moving very fast, throughout the country. Black actors and directors are desperately needed, but the "roots are still in the community, where the kids watch us rehearse, become used to us, then grow up culturally attuned to go to the theatre, in any part of town."

Combining their skills and mutual backgrounds in directing, acting and teaching (Doyle has taught at San Francisco State and Laney Colleges, Henderson at San Francisco City College), the two directors are seeking to make the Grassroot Experience Theatre as professionally respected and accepted as other theatre groups.

"I don't believe in revolutionary plays only. I believe in true-to-life black

experience, and that's the kind of play I look for to give to our audiences," Doyle emphasized. "The newer black writers are beginning to express themselves in a less revolutionary way: they're teaching and educating through their plays to a greater extent than they used to."

Doyle and the company, although young in years and professional experience, have found that both black and white contemporaries attend Grassroots' performances. "I don't know why so many white people come to see our productions. Maybe its because hip whites can also relate to our plays. It's a fresh new type of theatre and they're interested in something new and energetic."

The new season opens November 5th with Ben Caldwell's "Prayer Meeting - or - The First Militant Minister," "Notes From a Savage God," by Ronald Drayton, and "Weaklings of the Universe," poetry by Sonia Sanchez. All three will be directed by Doyle. These plays will run the first three weekends of November. Bessie Smith, who may be the most outstanding blues (Continued on page 5.)



James McCarver and Vern McAllister in scene from "The Militant Minister."

Calendar

GRASSROOT EXPERIENCE
Nov. 5 for three Fri. and Sat. week-ends, triple bill: "Notes from a Savage God," "The Militant Minister," and "Weaklings of the Universe". 8:30 p.m. Admission \$2.00. Reservations 647-8098.

JULIAN THEATRE
Nov. 26 for four week-ends: "The Lesson" and "A Storyteller From Flea Street." 8:30 p.m. Admission \$2.00. Reservations 647-8098.

MISTY MOUNTAIN PLAYERS
Nov. 20, 21, 27, 28: Misty Mountain Players present "The Rocky Mountain Wizard." 2 p.m. (Also, Nov. 21 and 28, Sundays, 7:30 p.m.) Admission \$2.00 adults, \$1.00 children.

MUSIC FOR YOUTH
Nov. 25: Thanksgiving Dance. Benefit. 9 p.m. For information call 826-8080.

All these events take

place at the Neighborhood House, 953 DeHaro St.

PROJECT ARTAUD
Nov. 5, Friday: "Collective Invention", an evening of electronic and ragtime music, with accompanying film, lights and environment. Musicians are Joseph Kubera, Spencer Burleson, Alden Jenks, Cathie Berger and Peter Barshay. 8:30 p.m. Admission \$2.00.

Nov. 27, Saturday: "Arts Ball," a dance with entertainment. Three bands, belly dancing, singing, and more. People are asked to come well dressed as there will be a fashion show at the end, with trophies. 9 p.m. Admission \$2.50. For further information call 864-8798 or 776-4633.

Events are at the People's Hall of Project Artaud, 2800 Mariposa St. (cor. Alabama), between 17th and 18th Streets.

David Edwards-Van Norden



Burned out gothic

Hill photographer David Edwards-Van Norden captured this poignant scene of calm after the Olivet blaze. The church was firebombed.

Grassroot Experience Theatre Co.

(Continued from page 4.) singer of this century, made only one movie in her short-lived life. "St. Louis Blues" (1929) will be shown during intermission at these performances.

Beginning in February, 1972, Vern Henderson will direct two plays: "Electronic Nigger" by Cecil Brown and "Steady Rap" by Richard Wesley. These one-acters will be co-directed by Grassroot's Rex Griffin.

Also opening sometime in February will be a special production and West Coast premiere of Ed Bullins' new play, "Duplex" a black love story in four acts. It will be directed by Doyle.

* * *

The Grassroot Experience Theatre has recently become incorporated and tax exempt. The group is making plans to get grants which will enable them to pay a staff and full time director.

Flag football

A unique and exciting kind of football, flag football, goes into its final four weeks of play at the Recreation Center.

Over 80 youngsters between the ages of 10 to 16 signed up and are divided into two divisions, each with four teams. The games are played every afternoon and Saturdays.

The "49-ers" currently hold first place in the 13 year olds and under division with a 5-2-1 record.

Outstanding players include George Clark, Ricky Armstrong, Grady Love, Rod Talmadge and Cal Davis.

The undefeated Colts lead the 16 year old division. Butch McElroy is the leading pass receiver; Mike Brown and Jerry Johnson have top passing honors.

Player of the month



Director Jesse Wilson congratulates Carl Love.

Electronics

The Electronics Workshop Program of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House is badly in need of community support.

Electronic equipment, including oscilloscopes, VOWs, VTVMs, signal, sine and squarewave generators and workshop tools of all sorts are needed.

The program has received a small grant from the Mission Optimist Club for equipment.

For more information call Gerald R. Dunham, program director, at: 431-1824 or 826-8080.

SPORTS

Sporting scene

Hill athletics

Pat Cleaver

With the success of the home teams the Giants and the 49er's, sports fervor is spreading through San Francisco like an epidemic. There certainly is nothing wrong with an epidemic of this sort. Football, baseball and basketball have been the national pastime of youth for years and the youth of San Francisco are no exception. In fact, many of the great names in sports learned their skills here in this city.

The problem today is that while the popularity of sports grows, programs dwindle. It has become more difficult for youth of the Potrero Hill community to get a chance to participate in organized team competition.

The Board of Education's decision to cancel Junior High athletics has made it very difficult for 7th, 8th and 9th grade boys to take part in any team efforts. (See letter to the Editor). The intra-mural programs, which are left in the schools, will never be equal to the experience of participating in interscholastic competition.

The Police Athletic League has tried to enlist some of these boys in their programs, but often times the practice field is not located on the Hill, and this makes it very difficult for a youngster to get to the removed site.

Unfortunately Jackson Park, 17th and Arkansas Streets has been of little help in alleviating this problem. Their sports program is next to nil. Jackson Park needs better facilities, lighting at night, a larger staff and more athletic programs for boy and girls. Lack of programs is a big disappointment to the youth at the bottom of the Hill, near Jackson.

Some bright spots in the youth sports picture are at Potrero Recreation Center, and at St. Teresa's School. Potrero Recreation Center has long offered an excellent selection of athletic programs to all ages. But still they are plagued by the small number of staff in proportion to the large number of youth which they serve. Our hats go off to them in their efforts.

St. Teresa's program, an old program, newly enlarged to take in all youth of the Hill, is hampered by the fact that it is all volunteers who coach their teams. Also, money being a problem, the program can never grow to as large as the need.

We cannot sit back and let these two programs serve the Hill by themselves. As residents of the community, let us speak up for the needs of our youth. We must bring back Junior High Athletics. We must speak up for the much needed improvements at Jackson Park. We can do these things by writing to the Board of Education, the Park and Recreation Department, the Police Athletic League, the Board of Supervisors, or the Mayor's office. Other areas of the city have better athletic programs, we urge you to fight for the same on Potrero Hill.

Sports shorts

ADULT BASKETBALL

Potrero Hill Recreation Center has a Class "A" Adult Basketball League with 6'6" ball players and 100 point games. Games are played Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

POLICE ATHLETICS

The Recreation Center is now taking sign-ups for a 13 and 14 year old Police Athletic League basketball team. Practice for 13 year olds will be Fridays at 7:30 p.m. 14 year olds will practice Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. Games will be played on Saturdays beginning in December.

PARK AND REC TEAMS

Sign-ups for Park and Recreation basketball leagues are now being taken at the Recreation Center for youngsters 10 through 17 years old. League play will start in January.

CLASSES

Girls and boys trampoline classes:

Tuesdays: 7:30-9:30p.m.

Thursdays: 4-6 p.m.

Adult trampoline class

Thursdays 10-12 a.m.

Dancing class Wednesdays 3:30-5 p.m.

Singing class Tuesdays 3:30-5 p.m.

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SURVIVAL

New on Hill

Self analysis

Yoga Vedanta Center

Throughout communities everywhere in the U.S. today, families have come to realize the acute necessity of saving this planet, this Earth, our home.

The ecological breakthrough is only one of enumerable projects designed to awaken the public. Not only do "litterable" diet cola bottles have to be recycled, but the physical bodies and minds involved with their purchase are also in need of recycling.

Potrero Hill's first spiritual recycling center, the I. C. S. A. Yoga Vedanta Center at 704 Vermont St. is underway and meeting just that need.

This foundation, which operates daily on the Hill, is under the tutelage and sponsorship of Dr. Ram-murti S. Mishra, visiting professor of yoga therapy, organizer and director of Rishikul World University, Haridwar, India, philosopher, Sanskrit scholar, psychiatrist, neuro-surgeon, author, friend and teacher to all, or just plain guru as he is known by his devoted students.

Dr. Mishra began his life and subsequent study of medicine in India. He has travelled extensively throughout many parts of the world and witnessed much human suffering from doubt and insecurity. These conditions have moved Dr. Mishra to devote his life to studying and further, to teaching all those who would help themselves to the rehabilitating qualities of self-awareness and self-analysis. Many are familiar with Doctor's works through his printed "Fundamentals of Yoga" and "Textbook of Yoga Psychology" published by

Julian Press.

What are the qualities of self-awareness, this "new yoga?" In the words of Dr. Mishra, "Self-analysis is the practice of discerning every thought, feeling and gross perception of the mind and its functions. Self-realization is that process by which self-analysis is fulfilled. Everyone's real consciousness exists, even in sleep. The mind has lost contact with its spiritual birth. Subsequently, fighting at home is no different from fighting outside. When the mind is sound, wisdom is sound, and the body returns to its original state of capability."

At the International Center for Self-Analysis, or I. C. S. A., on Vermont Street, the chief subject is yoga and its practice. Actually, the union of the mind with anything is "yoga" if there is directness and discipline involved. Specifically, yoga is an age-old science of monumental proportions, with disciplines set up to cultivate body, mind and intellect into healthy fulfilled living.

This process is the advancement towards total harmony through the personal introspection we all need. Through the eight steps of yoga, man can come to know himself and

More than just high school

Teenage mothers program

"Our goal is to provide comprehensive services to the young mother," says Amy Williams, coordinator and social worker for the Teenage Mothers Program at San Francisco General Hospital. Ruth Hammons, the head teacher, agrees, "We are concerned with the total girl and all the problems she may face at this time in her life, not just with school education for eight or nine months."

The Teenage Mothers Program, formally known as "The Hilltop Special Services Center", is located in Ward 54 at the 23rd and San Bruno entrance of the hospital. It is one of seven such centers in San Francisco, under the overall direction of the San Francisco Unified School District, but involving the participation of 27 different service agencies in the city.

The success of the program was most convincingly demonstrated by an interview with one of the participants. With a big smile, the young mother assured the VIEW reporter that "Hilltop is much better than public school. Our teachers are really understanding. We get to talk about our problems, about how we feel and what we want to talk about. We don't have any cutting. Everybody likes to come to school!"

The centers are available to pregnant girls up to the age of 21. Girls may



Social worker Amy Williams raps with two students. Babies up to six months old may attend the mini-nursery

choose the center they wish to attend, but the Hilltop Center at San Francisco General is closest and most convenient for Potrero Hill residents.

The program provides teenage mothers an opportunity to continue their high school education while pregnant, and encourages practical planning toward continuation after delivery. Girls may continue in the program up to six months after delivery.

Academic courses form only a part of the program. One of the main goals is to give the girls concrete preparation for the various aspects of pregnancy, delivery and infant care, as well as information on family planning.

Another important aim of the program is to give the girls assistance in planning for future education, employment and

financial support, child-care and living arrangements.

The Hilltop staff works together as a team, attempting to stimulate and coordinate services for the girls from various community social and health agencies. Referrals are made for particular needs.

Ruth Hammons, the head teacher, has a very humanistic approach to education. She practices the "little red school-house" style of teaching basic subjects with individualized attention to the students. She is aided by Claire Russell, also on the daily staff, who teaches part time.

Twice a week Jackie Brand gives reading classes. She instigated one of the girls' most popular projects this year. The girls tutor young children at a local elementary school. By helping the youngsters with their spelling and reading, they gain credit for their English requirements.

Judy Early teaches elective vocational courses in the afternoons, including business machines, book-keeping, record keeping, and typing.

Lois Moore gives home-making classes twice weekly. Her knitting and crocheting lessons have been especially popular with the girls.

Public Health Nurses give discussion type classes twice weekly. The girls are encouraged to ask questions and talk over (Continued on page 8.)

Program for mentally retarded

The Social Development Center for Mentally Retarded Adults will be in operation 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, beginning Wednesday, October 27, at the Neighborhood House, 953 DeHaro Street.

A wide variety of crafts, sewing, cooking, trips and recreation activities will be provided. The goal is to help individuals become as self-sufficient as possible: reading, writing, use of public transportation and development of counting faculties will be emphasized.

The program is operated under contract with the City and County of San Francisco and licensed by the State of California.

Participants must be 18 years or older, recipients of ATD and residents of the Hill. Volunteers are welcome. Materials and equipment are also needed. For information contact William G. Brueggemann, Director, at Potrero Hill Neighborhood House or call 826-8080.



Dr. Mishra supervises and often prepares the meals. All food at the ICSA Yoga Vedanta Center is vegetarian.

the universe without endangering anyone or anything.

And now, about the white, yellow and orange classroom on the corner of 19th and Vermont Streets.

Daily programs are offered to the public. Schedules begin with 8 a.m. Morning Meditation, and continuing through the day

to Hatha Yoga or physical exercise class at 7 p.m. There is a small donation requested.

Classes are about 20 to 30 persons; larger when Dr. Mishra is lecturing. Come early and experience for yourself how good a healthy body and mind can be.

Yoga is not foreign. Yoga means union. For further information, please call 824-9849.

If you cannot come to the classes but would like to receive by mail regularly printed copies of the Self-Analysis Bulletin, please write to: I. C. S. A. 102 David Drive, North Syracuse, New York 13212.

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Try organic gardening

FEATURE

Wouldn't you like to save money on grocery bills? Serve your family nutritious vegetables which you can be sure aren't doused by poisonous sprays? Contribute to a healthier environment and a more balanced ecology? Enjoy a relaxing and satisfying hobby?

Try raising a backyard garden the organic way. Potrero Hill enjoys the mildest climate of all San Francisco neighborhoods, and here the chances of successful city gardening are optimal.

All over the Hill, tucked away behind homes and fences, there are small patches of tomatoes, zucchini squash and herbs. The more energetic souls have reclaimed rocky hill-sides from the wild blackberries and iron-rooted fennel, transforming them into terraced gardens with an amazing variety of produce.

With the increasing awareness of the disastrous results of overuse of chemical poisons in agriculture, many people are choosing to practice conservation in terms of their own controllable surroundings--their home gardens.

PRESERVE ECOLOGY

Organic gardening uses only naturally-occurring materials for all phases of the growing operation--from improving the soil to fertilizing, to helping a plant ward off an insect or disease problem.

Organic gardening may take more work, but there are many benefits in the long run. Beneficial insects, birds, bacteria and fungi won't be killed off by indiscriminate poison sprays. Kitchen wastes, garden clippings, trimmings and weeds can be turned into rich organic material which will help plants grow vigorously and develop natural resistance to pests and disease.

A garden is a small paradise which can provide beauty and contentment. a

refuge from the dreary concrete and asphalt jungle that surrounds us city dwellers. If you want to create and protect such a refuge from poisons, here are some hints on how to begin:

This is a good time of the year to start preparing your garden soil for next Spring. Never call soil dirt! Good soil should contain 50% air and water, 45% organic minerals from the action of weather on rocks, and 5 % organic matter or humus.

SOUL OF THE SOIL

To correct poor soil, add lots of humus in the form of compost, animal manure and heavy mulches. Humus helps form clumps of soil particles that cling together and resist crushing, so that there is plenty of air and water space.

This counteracts clay soils which stick together and prevent root penetration, adequate drainage and proper air circulation. Humus holds together sandy soils which permit water to leach out valuable nutrients as it quickly seeps away.

Humus feeds beneficial soil bacteria and fungi which in turn create a fertile environment for the plants. Humus is the "soul of the soil."

To create your own humus, make compost. There are many simple methods of composting suitable for the city gardener on a large or small scale.

A quick method for the large garden is a layered pile. Build up layers of five or six inches of green matter alternated with two or three inch layers of kitchen garbage, manure, rich earth, ground limestone and phosphate rock. Shredding or grinding the materials promotes much faster decomposition.

Place sticks or pipes in the pile as you build it up and remove them later for air circulation. Cover the finished pile with a



Sally Sanders

Hill gardeners Erik and Lois Weber's Brussels sprouts and parsley, backed by Swiss chard, Nasturtiums (right) are reputed to repel some insects, and are tasty in salads.

thin layer of soil. Water (but don't soak) the pile and turn every few days.

A simpler method which takes two to three months for finished compost also involves layering the materials, but the heap is sealed with black plastic. There is no smell, no insect problem, and a minimum of watering and turning.

Compost can be made in a large metal garbage can with holes punched in the top and sides for ventilation, but turning is more difficult.

On an apartment scale, for house plants, compost can be made in a large coffee can.

An easy method which can be used at this time of year is to simply dig your kitchen scraps and green matter into trenches directly into your garden. By Spring the materials will have broken down and

softened the earth.

Whether you layer the materials or not, or use an open or sealed pile, it is very important to add manure or some other organic source of nitrogen, such as bloodmeal or cottonseed meal to your compost to stimulate the growth of bacteria which break down the materials into humus.

It is also a good idea to add organic sources of the other two main nutrients your soil needs directly to the compost pile. Bone-meal and ground phosphate rock are excellent sources of phosphorus, and kelp meal or seaweed fresh from the sea provide potash, along with greensand and granite dust.

Compost is "finished" when straw and grass clippings and other tougher materials are broken up and the mass is crumbly and has a rich, dark color. Dig finished compost into the top four inches of the soil--the more the better.

If you are composting on a small scale, and mainly to dispose of your kitchen scraps, dig the manure and other organic materials directly into soil in preparation for planting. Use the finished compost as a mulch after the plants are growing.

PLANT NOW

There are some "cool-weather crops" which can still be planted now, if you hurry. Potrero Hill gardeners might try winter crops of radishes, spinach, lettuce, swiss chard, scallions, turnips, beets and carrots planted from seed. Seedlings of broccoli and cauliflower can go out now, along with "sets" of onions and garlic.

Bulbs can be planted now for spring flowers and seed sown for spring blooming of assylum, sweet pea, forget-me-nots and others.

To keep weeds from invading your vegetable patch and to conserve moisture and a nice even temperature, use a heavy mulch (two to six inches, depending on the density of the material used) of straw, hay, compost, grass clippings, cocoa-bean hulls or other organic materials. Black plastic can be weighted down with rocks around the plants as a mulch.

SNAILS LIKE BEER

Common pests on Potrero Hill are snails, slugs and cutworms which ravage the leafy greens, especially tender seedlings. Some people go on nightly snail patrols and leave out shallow pans of beer, hoping to drown thirsty slugs.

A ring of ashes or lime around the edges of the garden may discourage the soft-bellied slimy creatures.

Protect young seedlings with a chicken wire frame covered with cheesecloth or nylon net, anchoring with dirt all around.

To protect against cutworms, a collar of ordinary tarpaper or milk and cottage cheese containers is sometimes effective.

A good guide and source of information on all aspects of organic gardening is the "Sunset Guide to Organic Gardening", available in magazine form for \$1.95.

Many organic fertilizers, mulches and organic seeds, soil-testing kits, and botanical (non-poisonous) sprays for some insect pests may be obtained near Potrero Hill at the Organic Farm and Garden Center, 924 Olmsted St., near McLaren Park.



Sally Sanders

The Weber's had a bumper crop of Italian parsley, lettuce and broccoli (upper right).

David Edwards - Van Norden



Hill residents suffer through speeches at candidates night.

Local candidates night dulled by canned speeches

(Continued from page 1.) times. All candidates pleaded ignorance, some muttered something which sounded like "first things first." Mayor Alioto asked for a description of the problem, but was so antagonistic towards the woman attempting an over-long explanation, that the audience ultimately drowned out both the mayor and the question.

The stop sign, however relatively insignificant, is one real issue on Potrero Hill. And from Chairman

Peterson's initial comment "We don't have to waste time on a hassle over one stop sign," he did his best to keep related questions to a minimum. It seemed that he divined his function as giving candidates, particularly Mayor Alioto, as friction-free exposure to Potrero Hill as possible.

As Richard Hongisto, candidate for sheriff, mentioned in his remarks (and another candidate who insisted on taking questions obviously noted), it is not possible for anyone to present himself or his qualifications squarely in such a situation. The attitude of the chair, and apparently, the Boosters is antithetical to the purpose of any real political meeting that close to election time.

Proposition "A"

(Continued from page 1.) meet the Board's criteria, despite the fact that Webster was closed down last spring.

"The hazard at Webster is a fall hazard," Queiser stated, "not a collapse hazard. The wooden tunnels and fences took care of that."

"Scott is a lousy school, but not collapsible," he said.

"Everyone likes this school"

(Continued from page 6.) their feelings about pregnancy and delivery. There are lectures by Dr. Philip Goldstein, Assistant Administrative Head of the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department at San Francisco General. He also runs the teenage clinic on Thursday mornings for all the girls who plan to deliver their babies at General.

All the girls participate in rap groups run by Amy Williams and counselors from Mission Mental Health, Family Service and the Children's Home Society. These are informal groups, not group therapy, but consultation is available to staff members from Mission Mental Health when needed. Girls may receive individual counseling in some cases.

Once a week there is group vocational counseling by Eileen Vonk, who arranges speakers and information about career training programs.

Daily snacks are provided for the girls and there is a "mini-nursery", staffed on a cooperative turn-taking basis by the girls. The nursery is for girls who have no one at home to care for their babies. After the children reach six months, girls must make arrangements to return to public schools. This is often difficult because of the severe lack of childcare services in the communities of San Francisco.

The pleasant homey atmosphere of the classrooms, the variety of educational and counseling experiences offered and the warm, friendly manner of the staff members contribute to the goals of providing a service that meets the real needs of teenage mothers.

Old Irish Hill

Among the earliest settlers on Potrero Hill were Irish immigrants from Ireland. They settled on the Hill near 22nd and Illinois Streets. This became known as Irish Hill in the 1880's. It was covered with hotels and boarding houses such as The Green House, run by Mike Farrell, The White House, run by Hans Rasmussen, and The San Quentin House, run by Jim Gately. The San Quentin House took in parolees from San Quentin Prison and got them jobs in rolling mills at the foot of the Hill.

Many a Saturday afternoon was filled with the sound of fighting in the streets. The boys from one hotel would challenge another to a fight. The fist-swinging fight would take place in a hay-rope ring outside Gately's Hotel.

Irish Hill no longer exists. It was levelled by the government during the First World War, and now is the site of Bethlehem Steel.

(From "A Study of Potrero Hill" by Clark and Cheryl Taylor.)

? HAVE SOME SIMILAR PIX



David Edwards - Van Norden

Olivet fire

(Continued from page 1.) wakened many nearby residents as firemen raced to put out the flames which quickly reached beyond the old church's roof. Only the Fire Department's rapid response

saved the building from total destruction.

The following evening several hundred residents gathered for the biweekly Friday dinner held as scheduled in the still charred-smelling church.

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